

**STATE SENATOR • GILDA Z. JACOBS • 14<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

# **Jacobs Press Release**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **SENATOR GILDA JACOBS APPLAUDS FERNDALE 'COOL CITY' FUNDING**

LANSING – Sen. Gilda Jacobs (D-Huntington Woods) today applauded Gov. Jennifer Granholm's announcement of Ferndale as recipient of Cool Cities pilot project funding. The grant monies will expand the city's BUILD program, which offers a 20 percent reimbursement for exterior building improvements to properties in the downtown area. The grant monies will allow for the addition of up to five additional properties to the program.

"Creating vibrant and attractive cities and urban centers is vital to the economic development in our state," Jacobs said. "The Cool City pilot designation reaffirms Ferndale's efforts to contribute to Michigan's future economic viability."

Ferndale was one of 20 Cool City pilot projects announced today. In addition to catalyst grants of up to \$100,000, each recipient will receive access to a 'resource toolbox' that includes more than 75 state community improvement grants, and loan and assistance programs, allowing them to leverage millions of existing dollars for revitalization.

Some 150 project applications from 112 Michigan cities were considered for the pilot funding. Other project grants include Alpena, Bay City, Detroit, Flint, Grand Rapids, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Marquette, Port Huron, Portland, Saginaw, Saugatuck, Sault Ste. Marie, Traverse City, Warren, and Ypsilanti.

The Cool Cities initiative, designed to encourage development of vibrant and attractive cities and urban centers, is part of Gov. Granholm's economic development plan for Michigan.

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*State Senator Gilda Jacobs represents the 14<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes Farmington, Farmington Hills, Ferndale, Hazel Park, Huntington Woods, Lathrup Village, Oak Park, Pleasant Ridge, Royal Oak Township, and Southfield. She is the Minority Vice Chair of the Families & Human Services Committee and the Economic Development, Small Business & Regulatory Reform Committee. She also serves on the Government Operations and Health Policy Committees.*